

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

Applicants appreciate that the Office Action considers independent claims 1-3 to be patentable.

The Office Action rejected all presently-pending claims 4-7. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 4-7 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections

Rejections under 35 USC§112

Claims 4-7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite.

First of all, claims 4-6 are amended to be dependent claims respectively. Claim 4 is dependent on claim 1, therefore the effective heat computation means, as recited in Office Action, is a subject matter disclosed in claim 1. Moreover, the "molten" added in claim 4 before the "reference standard value" is used to distinguish over the "reference standard value" disclosed in claim 1. Likewise, claim 5 is dependent on claim

3, and the "deposited" added in claim 5 before the "reference standard value" is used to distinguish over the "reference standard value" disclosed in claim 3.

As to claim 6, since the original claim 6 depend on the subject matters of original claims 4 and 5 simultaneously, therefore claim 6 is amended to be dependent on claim 4 and the subject matters disclosed in claims 5 and 3 (claim 5 depends on claim 3) is added to the amended claim 6.

As to claim 7, since the original claim 7 is dependent on original claims 1, 3-6, therefore the amended claim 7 is dependent on claim 6. Herein the "deposited metal weight" is disclosed in original claim 3 as "the weight of welding wire metal deposited on the workpiece", therefore the amendment is required, and so does the "workpiece welding time" is amended.

Finally, claims 1-3 are amended to meet the formality requirements.

It is believed that the foregoing amendments add no new matter to the present application. Applicants believe that these amendments place the claims in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

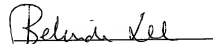
For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that

the pending claims 4-7 are in proper condition for allowance.
If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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